

Why take AP American Government and Politics?

"All who have meditated on the art of governing mankind have been convinced that the fate of empires depends on the education of youth." Aristotle

"If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never will be." Thomas Jefferson

Edward R. Murrow observed that "...a nation of sheep begets a government of wolves."

Advance Placement Government provides a classroom environment that empowers students to exercise higher order thinking skills. It is from that position that students become future citizens who can fulfill their responsibilities as active and informed members of a democracy.

One takes AP Government to make a difference!

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND CORE OBJECTIVES:

In this college level course, students will intensively study American government. There will be a focus on the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute the U.S. political system. This course satisfies the U.S. Government requirement and is designed to prepare students for the AP Exam.

Students will cultivate their reading, listening, evaluating, and analyzing skills in terms of effectively communicating the main themes of American government and politics. Students will also be expected to make broader connections between events in U.S. Government and other world events in preparation for the A.P. Government and Politics Exam. The course will be taught using a thematic approach which will often overlap the 6 different conceptual themes in the course:

1. Constitutional Underpinnings 10%
2. Political Beliefs and Behaviors 15%
3. Parties, Interest Groups, Media 15%
4. Institutions 40%
5. Public Policy 10%
6. Civil Rights and Civil Liberties 10%



COURSE GRADES:

35% Unit Tests
25% Quizzes
15% Projects & Activities
25% Homework